

## REMARKS


Prior to an examination of the present application, the Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to cancel claims 1-12, add new claims 13-18, and amend the specification in a manner similar to parent application Serial No. 09/580,818. No new matter has been added.

**In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is kindly requested to contact Applicant's undersigned Attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any such matters so as to expedite allowance of this application.**

Respectfully submitted,

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